

MINUTES: Yahara WINS Executive Committee meeting:

DATE: 09/17/2024

TIME: (approx. 2:05 PM)

LOCATION: Virtual meeting

SUBMITTED BY: Greg Fries - Secretary

Executive Committee:

- X Martin Griffin, President, MMSD
- X Greg Fries, Secretary, City of Madison
- X Jeff Rau, Treasurer, Village of Oregon
- X Tom Wilson, Towns and Villages Association
- X Judd Blau, Village of Deforest, Vice President
- X Kyle Minks, Amy Piaget, Dane County Representative
- X Laura Hicklin, John Reimer, Dane County Representative
- X John Lindert, Strand
- Mark Riedel – WDNR
- Ben Schulte – City of Fitchburg
- X Mike Gilbertson, Kathy Lake – MMSD
- Phil Gaebler – City of Madison

1. Opening

- a. Call to Order – Griffin called the meeting to order at 2:06 PM
- b. Welcome guests and visitors

2. Review and acceptance of June 18, 2024, meeting minutes

Motion by Rau, Seconded by Blau, Unanimous

3. Other Business:

- a. Action Item: Draft 2025 Budget – Marty provided a brief presentation on the 2025 budget highlighting changes and updates for revenue, expenditures and reduction of funds to the operating reserve. Rau mentioned that we are still holding very true to the original vision of YAHARA WINS - the budget process has been pretty constant over the last 8 years. A question that has been asked – is should we be moving our operating reserves to a fund where they can work harder for us. Question regarding where our expenditures over time are going compared to P reductions over time. Marty reported that we do not have this comparative graph currently but hopefully this will be resolved with the creation of the revised cost model discussed as part of the next item.

Question regarding how we are “training” our farmer participants to be dependent on cash funding from WINS, and that Yahara Pride seems to be oversubscribed and coming back to WINS for additional funding every year. Noted that we would like them to plan a bit better in the long term.

Motion by Wilson to move this forward as presented to the full group for a vote at the October meeting. Seconded by Blau.

- b. Informational Item: Status of Cost Model Redevelopment – Gilbertson gave a quick update on the work to create the revised cost model and work through the existing cost model spreadsheet (which is quite complex). The consultant has the first Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting next week with a working goal of having the new model in place by the end of the year. To date there have not been any “surprises”, so far, the large task has been to understand the coding behind the existing cost model spreadsheet.
- 4. Future Agenda Items – discussion of Yahara Pride Farms additional funding request for 2024.
  - 5. Adjourn Moved by Wilson, Second by Blau